LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

No claims are amended with the present response.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application:

Listing of Claims

1. – 14. (Canceled)

15. (Previously Presented) A spear gun for propelling a shaft comprising:

a barrel extending to a head;

propelling rubber bands and tensioning rubber bands; and

pulleys, located at the head, arranged to guide the propelling rubber bands to pass from a top of the barrel to an underside of the barrel, wherein the shaft is propelled along an entire length of the barrel.

16. (Previously Presented) The spear gun according to claim 15, wherein the pulleys are mounted in series.

17. (Previously Presented) The spear gun according to claim 15, wherein the pulleys are mounted in parallel.

18. (Previously Presented) The spear gun according to claim 15, wherein the pulleys are mounted in parallel series.

19. (Previously Presented) The spear gun according to claim 15, wherein the pulleys are faired to allow a released wire to glide through the spear gun.

20. (Previously Presented) The spear gun according to claim 15, wherein the pulleys comprise:

a set of mobile pulleys, wherein an additional rubber band loaded on the underside actuates the pulleys by actuation of a lever arm.

21. (Previously Presented) The spear gun according to claim 20, wherein the pulleys slide inside a slot and can be pushed or pulled.

22. (Previously Presented) The spear gun according to claim 20, further comprising:

a slide-pushing control.

23. (Previously Presented) The spear gun according to claim 20, further comprising:

a sliding pulley-frame control.

24. (Previously Presented) The spear gun according to claim 20, further comprising:

a slide-pulling control.

25. (Previously Presented) The spear gun according to claim 15, wherein the propelling rubber bands are one of joined by a fitting and tied to the tensioning rubber bands, and

wherein a number of rubber bands and respective cross-sections of the number of rubber bands depend on the strength of an individual user and on a power desired for propelling a shaft of a given caliber.

26. (Previously Presented) The spear gun according to claim 25, wherein two tensioning rubber bands are loaded for one propelling rubber band.

27. (Previously Presented) The spear gun according to claim 25, wherein a cross-sectional ratio between the propelling rubber bands and the tensioning rubber bands is utilized to provide at least one of better elastic recovery, ease of loading, and power.

28. (Previously Presented) The spear gun according to claim 15, wherein the rubber bands can be stopped during their stroke in order to reduce the power.

29. (Previously Presented) The spear gun according to claim 15, being structured and arranged as a crossbow.

30. (Previously Presented) The spear gun according to claim 15, being structured and arranged as a underwater spear gun.

31. (Previously Presented) The spear gun according to claim 15, further comprising connecting wires, wherein the propelling rubber bands and the tensioning rubber bands are each divided in a middle into separate branches joined to one another by the connecting wires.

32. (Previously Presented) The spear gun according to claim 15, wherein the pulleys' axes are one of fixed and mobile.

33. (Previously Presented) A method of using a spear gun, comprising:

loading a shaft onto a top of a spear gun barrel;

loading at least one propelling rubber band, guided from an underside of the barrel to a top of the barrel, onto the shaft; and

propelling the shaft along an entire length of the barrel.

34. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 33, further comprising:

tensioning the at least one propelling rubber band with at least one tensioning rubber band arranged on an underside of the barrel,

whereby, after a releasing of the shaft from the barrel, the at least one propelling rubber band remains under at least some tension at an end of the barrel.